

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 and 10-12 are pending in this Application. By this Amendment, claim 1 has been amended by incorporating the allowable features of claim 9, and claim 9 has been canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein. No new matter is added. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

I. Claims Define Patentable Subject Matter

The Office Action rejects claims 1-5 and 11-12 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kitaguchi (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2005/0062125) in view of Lin (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0096999) and further in view of Okazaki (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0062530); and rejects claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kitaguchi in view of Lin and Okazaki and further in view of Fukuda (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0013266).

The Applicants appreciate that the Office Action indicates that claims 6 and 8-10 contain allowable subject matter. By this Amendment, claim 1 is amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 9.

Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) are now moot, and that claim 1 is allowable over the cited references. As claim 1 is allowable, the Applicants submit that claims 2-8 and 10-12, which depend from allowable claim 1, are likewise allowable over the cited references, as well as for the additional features recited therein. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejections.

II. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-8 and 10-12 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

In the event this paper is not considered to be timely filed, the Applicant hereby petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension, together with any additional fees that may be due with respect to this paper, may be charged to counsel's Deposit Account No. 01-2300, referencing Attorney Dkt. No. 107156-00332.

Respectfully submitted,


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